



**Jim Mosher, oboe and English horn**, is a native of Iowa and has been a member of the TSO since 1982. Jim also plays in the Topeka Woodwind Quintet and is a founding member of the Castle & Cross Consort, Topeka's unique early music ensemble. A music performance major at Pittsburg State University, Jim has since earned masters and doctorate degrees in Metaphysics. Jim is employed by the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library and works various public service desks. He is an active member of the Pagan/Wiccan community and liaison to the Interfaith Council of Topeka. He serves as High Priest for MoonShadow Coven of Topeka and is the music director for the Auburn Community Theatre.



**Neal Purvis, principal trombone**, has been a member of the brass section for approximately 20 years. He started trombone when he was eight years old and earned a Bachelor of Music Education from Kansas University and a Masters Degree in Trombone Performance from North Texas State. He has been band director for the Shawnee Heights School District for the last 23 years and played in the 312th Army Reserve Band for a number of years. He and his wife, Jenny, like to attend professional orchestra concerts. He enjoys jogging, golfing and spending time with their six-year old daughter.



**Peter Stern, trumpet**, has been a member of the TSO for 31 years. He has been active in TSO Governance serving on the Board for four years and the Orchestra Committee for eight years. Peter earned a BA in Psychology from Northwestern University, completed post baccalaureate studies in Music Therapy at Willamette University and obtained a Master in Business Administration at Kansas University. Peter has been CEO at Kansas Independent Pharmacy Service Corporation since 1990. He enjoys tennis, hiking and playing in or listening to various music events.



**Jerry Reiman, timpani**, has been a TSO member for at least 30 years. He originally played in the viola section while completing his Bachelor of Music Education at Washburn University. Jerry has also studied at the University of Missouri-Kansas City as a percussionist. He was instructor of orchestra, band and percussion in the Seaman School District until his retirement after 32

years of service. Jerry has taught private lessons, served as an adjunct music professor at Washburn and has gone back to teaching at Seaman where he is the District's Percussion Specialist. He enjoys traveling during his spare time.

# Topeka Symphony Orchestra Player Portraits 2010-2011



*“Men in Black”*



Printing courtesy of Security Benefit Corporation

Special thanks to Dave Azwell



**Bo Atlas, principal tuba**, is in his second season as principal tuba. He began his musical studies on trumpet, switched to euphonium and eventually to tuba. Bo is the recipient of numerous awards including winner of the Great Plains Regional Tuba Conference Solo Competition. He is a member of the Thunder All Star Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble and is also a freelance musician having played with the Kansas City Symphony, Fountain City Brass Band, Kansas City Ballet and Kansas Brass Quintet. Bo is a proponent of new music and is the Kansas representative in the North American Tuba Repertoire Initiative. He is currently finishing his Bachelor of Music Degree at Kansas University.



**Rob Banks, harp**, has been the TSO harpist for 25 years. You can count the number of instruments on one hand that Rob plays...harp, piano, organ, clarinet and saxophone. Rob earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Kansas University where he majored in voice and minored in piano. He also has a Masters in Library Science from Emporia State University and is currently Deputy Director of Operations for the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. Rob has been married for over 30 years, has two children and enjoys cooking.



**Scott Bradley, bass trombone**, is in his 27th year with the TSO. Scott is a graduate of Hope College in Holland, Michigan with a Bachelor of Music Education degree. He also holds a Masters Degree in Low Brass Performance from Emporia State University. He has been teaching instrumental music in the public schools for 32 years and currently teaches at Rock Creek High School. Married to Lisa, with three grown children and three grandchildren, Scott enjoys running, cooking, bowling, traveling and following his son's baseball career.



**Jeremy Dowden, trombone**, was born in Texas and has been with the TSO for two seasons. Jeremy earned his Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Northwestern State University and is currently working on his Masters in Music Performance at the University of Kansas where he also plays with the KU Wind Ensemble and the KU Symphony Orchestra. Jeremy's passion is orchestral music, but he has taken an interest in jazz at KU and performed in their jazz ensembles. Jeremy is an avid outdoorsman where he enjoys camping and "being one with nature." Another favorite past-time for Jeremy is barbecuing.



**Dwight Purvis, French horn**, is in his first season with the TSO. He obtained a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Kansas University and a Master of Music from Florida State University. From 1989-2007, Dwight was horn instructor at Virginia University as well as director of the Wind Ensemble and Brass Choir. Dwight returned to Lawrence in 2008 and turned his hobby of woodworking into a handy-man and remodeling service called Purvis Woodworks. Dwight and his wife, Kimberly, over the last 25 years have raised two sons. By the way, check out brother Neal also in this Player Portrait Insert.



**Shawn Evans, percussion**, is a graduate of Derby High School and has been a percussionist for over 20 years. Twelve of those years have been with the TSO's percussion section. He has also been a percussionist with the Kansas National Guard as well as working full-time for the Guard. He has played drumset for the Topeka Jazz Workshop and has worked with the drumline at Shawnee Heights High School. Shawn's free time is occupied by computers, music and family.



**Rob Overton, French horn**, took one year off from the TSO to get married but is still a nine-year veteran of the horn section. He is a graduate of Kansas University with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education. Rob is currently a Certified Financial Planner at Financial Professionals, Inc. in Overland Park. During his free time, he enjoys inline skating, bowling and playing the accordion. Along with his wife, he is active in their church running the children's music program, singing in the choir and playing in the bell choir.



**Don McDaniel, trumpet**, has been a member of the TSO for 20 years. Don holds multiple degrees including a Bachelor of Music Education from Emporia State University, Bachelor of Science degree from Washburn University and Master of Music from Oklahoma University. These varied degrees have led Don into interesting stages of his work career. He has been an assistant band director and worked in computer programming, sales and fundraising. Finally he became band director in Holton where he has been for 24 years. Sports officiating, golfing and woodworking occupy Don's free time. He has been married for 35 years and has two children and three grandchildren.